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DeLoe's
REVIEW

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A

REVIEW

OF THE

Affairs of *FRANCE*:

Purg'd from the Errors and Partiality of *News-Writers*
and *Petty-Statefmen*, of all Sides.

Saturday, July 1. 1704.

AS our Folly appear'd in not Relieving and Supporting the King of *Bohemia*, and the *French* made their Advantage of it, to lay the Foundation of their rising Greatness: So all the Decrease of the Protestant Interest, both in *Germany* and afterwards in *France*, is a double Proof of this Truth, that our Error has been their Advantage.

The not Relieving the Protestants in *France*, laid the Foundation of their Destruction, and their Destruction Cemented the *French* Power.

They that say King *Charles I.* did not Relieve *Rochel*, say true, and more may be said on that Head hereafter; King *Charles I.* was ill serv'd in that Affair; I make no Question, but that Prince was very hearty in his own Desires, of Relieving *Rochel*, and I believe he spent as much Money in the several Enterprizes to that purpose, as would effectually have brought it to pass; and therefore they mistake me very much, who expect I should reflect upon his Memory in this Article; but I can no more excuse the Managers of it, than accuse the King. His Majesty parted with large Sums for the Relief of the Protestants, and that at a Time when Money was not very Plentiful, nor easy to

come at; but the Misapplication of the Sums, or the ill Conduct Abroad, left his Majesty disappointed, the Nation Buffoon'd and Contemn'd by the *French*; the Protestants in the utmost Distress, at the Mercy of their Enemies, and drove the King to make a Dishonourable Peace.

This the *French* fail'd not to make their Advantage of, and treated the *English* with all the Haughtiness and Insult, that 'twas possible for one Nation to shew, or the other to bear.

The Writer of Cardinal *Richlieu's* Life, informs us honestly what their Sentiments of the *English* Affairs then were, Telling us, that while *Lewis XIII.* was at *Susa*, he receiv'd the extraordinary Ambassadors of almost all the Princes of *Italy*, and concluded there two very important Treaties, one a League with *Venice* and *Savoy*, and the other a Peace with *England*, of which this Author goes on and says;

' King *Charles I.* after a great deal of
' Trouble, and vast Expence, was oblig'd
' to make Application to the *French*, by
' the *Venetians*, to obtain a disadvantage-
' ous Peace; which drew upon him the
' Contempt of Strangers, as well as of his
' own Subjects. He had endeavour'd to
' accommodate Matters with *Lewis XIII.*
L 1 whilst

whilst he was before *Rosbel*, by Mediation of the Ambassadors of the King of *Denmark*, and the States General; but Answer was given, That if they had Power from the King of *England* to ask a Peace for him, and to offer such Satisfaction as he ought to make to *France* to obtain it; a Negotiation should be enter'd into with them, but no otherwise. So brisk an Answer shew'd, that *Charles* was but little fear'd, and that he must be forc'd in the end, to come to what *France* Demanded, he promis'd by the Treaty, to confirm the Articles of the Contract of the Queen's Marriage, which he had so often broken, and Accepted with so much Meanness, and which if there was any thing to be alter'd for the Service of the Queen, was to be done with the Consent of both Crowns — The Treaty was sign'd the 24th of April, 1629. by *Zorzo Zorzi*, and by *Louis Contarini*, Ambassadors of *Venice*, Empowered by *England*. Hist. of *Card. Richieu*, Vol. I. Pag. 312.

Whether the Authority of the Author of this Life, be unquestioned or not, is not much to our present purpose; but that this League was made, is out of doubt, and the Terms were so Dishonourable, as that our People at Home were very much distast'd, as our own Histories make out.

But thus much of this is for our present Purpose, the Error lay in our selves, in the Reign of this King's Father; had he Establish'd the Prince Palatine his Son in the Kingdom of *Bohemia*, and thereby Erected the Protestant Religion in *Germany*, as he ought to have done, both as a Protestant Prince, and as a Father, and as he had Power sufficient to have done, had he taken it in time; that Prince who was a Zealous Protestant, had fix'd the Protestant Power too fast for Cardinal *Richieu* to have dar'd Insult it, or the House of *Austria* suppress it.

Had he after this Vigorously assisted the *Hugonots* in *France*, in the beginning of the Reign of *Lewis XIII.* when the Bishop of *Lucon*, was yet but under Hatches at Court, and depending on the Queen-Mother, rather seem'd to Favour than Oppress the *Hugonots*; had this been done,

the Heads of the Protestants had never forsaken them, and turn'd Catholics, such as the Dukes of *Sully*, *Bouillon*, and *Les Digueres*, with the Marshals, *Scomberg*, *Chastillon*, and a great many others, who made their Peace at the Price of their Consciences, and got Rewards and Preferments for abandoning a sinking Party.

Tho' 'tis a Melancholy Task to rip up those Fatal Errors of Princes, the Effects whereof their Posterity feels; yet as 'tis an unanswerable Proof of what I am upon, I cannot avoid it; that thus we may see how the *French Grandeur* first began in the Errors of their Neighbours.

The next Error which farther'd the Prodigious Rise of the *French* Power, was that *England* and *Holland* (for the Dutch came in to the Mistake, and shall have a plentiful share of the Blame, if the Author lives to finish this History) not only neglected to assist the Protestants, but gave the finishing Stroke to their Absolute Ruin; I mean in lending Ships to *Lewis XIII.* and his bloody Cardinal; when, had they been left to stand upon their own Naval Strength on both sides, the *Rockellers* would have beaten all the Navy of *France*: This I touch here, only as far as will give light to the Story, and make my Observations just; for I shall give a particular Account of it, when I come to the History of the Rise and Fall of the Protestant Religion in *France*.

'Tis alledg'd, That when the King of *France* borrowed our Ships, he engag'd they should not be Employ'd against the Protestants, but against the *Genoese*; but had this been so, when the *French* did otherwise Employ them, why had not the *English* sent out a Fleet to fetch them Home? — But as it was, the *Rockellers* were very near beating them all, *English*, *Dutch*, and *French* Fleets together, and had not the *Dutch* Admiral reveng'd himself the next day, it had been done.

Then the *Rockellers* Naval Force was broke, and the Protestants of *England* and *Holland*, pull'd down the Protestant Religion in *France*, which else had stood and Flourish'd to this day.

I remember a Story which is told of a certain K. of *England*, who must be Nameless here,

here, for Kings are not always to be Poin-
ed at—— Application was made to him
for the Execution of a Man, that had kill'd
three Men at several Times; but as the
Person who made this Application, knew
particularly how to hit the King's Humour,
he Address'd him for a Pardon for this Mur-
therer: No, says the King, *I cannot do
it—— Why he has kill'd three Men; No,
Sir, says the Person, he has never kill'd but
one; I tell you, says the King, he has been
Condemn'd for three several Murders; That's
true, replies the pretended Intercessor, but
he has kill'd but one of them, your Majesty
kill'd the other two; for if you had hang'd
him for the first, he had never kill'd the rest;*

the King understood him, *says the King; well, I'll kill no more; the Fel-
low shall be hang'd out of hand.*

What shall we answer to a French Pro-
testant, when we Revile him as we do too
much, with sitting among us, and he shall
say, it was you turn'd us out of our own
Country; it was you Englishmen help'd
Lewis XIII. to Disarm and Reduce us; we
had held out till now, if you had not lent
him your Ships to beat us: The Fact is too
true, we are really Guilty, and these are
some of the English Errors which have help'd
to make France so Great.

These are some, and worse follow.

ADVICE from the Scandalous CLUB.

OUR Society having a great deal of
Business before them, are oblig'd
to Intrench upon the Historical, which is
otherwise the Principal part of this Design,
and we are forc'd to break off sooner than
usual, to take into consideration the many
Letters laid before the Society this last
Week.

The first Case before us, is to Decide a
Wager, which two Gentlemen say they have
laid, upon two Articles in the *Courant*, of June
19. whether they are true English or not.

*From the Camp at Muldenschien, June 9.
My Lord Duke has receiv'd Advice, that the
Elector of Bavaria had repass'd the Danube,
and was Encamp'd on this side the Rhine.*

*From the Camp at Great Heppach, June
12. The 10th in the Morning an Adjutant
General came to acquaint my Lord Duke, that
Prince Eugene of Savoy, with Count Wra-
tislau, were on the Road to our Camp.*

To these Wagering Gentlemen the So-
ciety have taken the freedom to say, That
before they eat the Fowls and drink the
Gallon of Wine, which they say is their
Wager, will be pleased to come before the
Club themselves, for saying in the Letter,
that our Judgment is required of the Au-
thor of the *Courant's* Translation in the
two following Paragraphs, and then hav-
ing recited them, bids us look in the *Ga-
zette* for the last of them—— This we
cannot reconcile—— and therefore

desire they'll Answer to this Charge, be-
fore their Wager is otherwise decided.

Another Gentleman who signs his Let-
ter C. F. and makes three Objections. 1.
Against our Appellation *Scandalous Club*;
to which he gives an Answer himself, by
saying he has read none of our former Pa-
pers; to which we refer him therefore, for
a full Defence of our Title; a Supplement
of which is offer'd when that is Answer'd.

2. He says the Story of the Brewer is
too mean for our Paper, and would look
better, strutting in the *Observer*.

To this we Answer, We make no Com-
parison of Papers, and know none by that
distinction of meaner than our own; but
we humbly conceive to Reform any Scan-
dalous Crime, is so far from being below,
that 'tis the highest and Principal Design
of our Society, let the Person be high or
low.

3. He says the Story of the Person sent
out of *Oxfordshire* is old, and he remembers
it when he was a Boy, and is really very
Witty upon that occasion.

So, Sir, I remember Drunkenness was
an old Crime, and when I was a Boy I
saw a Man very Drunk; and does it fol-
low I must not bring a Man before our
Club that is so now? As to the two Verses,
if you mean they were old and Ridiculous,
the Person that used them, Sir, is the more
beholden to you, that whereas we set him
down

down for a Drunkard, you have mark'd him for a Coxcomb too, for repeating two old Thredbare Lines, that were out of Fashion when Men were little Boys——

As to your Objection about our favouring too much the French Interest, this we have so often met with, and so often Answered, that we can only refer you back to the former Papers, unless you please, Sir, as has been desired of other Ingenious Gentlemen, furnish your self with a needful Talent of Patience, and judge like your self by the Consequence and real Issue of the History.

The following Letter was also sent to the Society, with a Challenge in it, which we think both hard and unusual.

Gentlemen of the Scandalous Club,
Your Explanation of the following Lines made in March last, is earnestly desir'd and expected.

Before the end of *FASON*'s Reign,
 The Roman Eagle shall obtain
 The Crown, and Golden Fleece of Spain,
 And *ANFOU*, shall to Gaul again.

To be short, Gentlemen, for I like not long Go-abours, unless you Perform well, you stand Pos'd and Expos'd, and at the next Court Day to be told here before Our Sovereign *APOLLO*, You shall be summon'd before Him to Answer for Dulness; where I doubt not but I shall obtain against You, Who set up for Guides and Givers of Rules, such Sentence as your Case deserves; and what Great Judge of Wis will suspend you from Writing, till you have given reasonable Satisfaction. Gentlemen, I am

Parnassus, June Your Humble Servant
 28. 1704. T. P.

Truly, Sir, who ever you are that sent as this *Enigma*, We think you ought to come before Our Club, for mistaking our profession; for tho' we have pretended to Reproof and Censure, we never told you we pretended to be Conjurers, and like *DANIEL*, tell the Dream and the Interpretation too.

However, the Society because they are willing to oblige you, and also have a great value for your Wit, have bestow'd some time upon the Matter.

The weight of the Case, lies upon who this *FASON* must be; we cannot find him, Sir, either in *Simlly* or *Allegory*; we have look'd for him in vain among the present Crown'd Heads of *EUROPE*; nor can we see him among the God's, as if you should mean under his Constellation or Influence.

We remember old Nuncle *FASON* and the Story of the Golden Fleece, but we could form no Coherence from him, or any of his Family.

So that in short, we knew not what to make of your *Fason*, till thinking of *Sme-Aymnus*, and so dissecting the Word, we found the Letters might signify the coming Months of *July, August, September, October, November*; if this be your meaning, Sir, the Society agreed to let you know, That if your Prophecy come to pass, they will for ever hold you for a Conjuror, or a Soothsayer, at least —— But if you are a false Prophet, as there is too much reason to doubt, you will expect to be treated accordingly; wherefore they Recommend it to your utmost skill, if you have any Correspondence with the old Gentleman, to endeavour to bring it to pass——

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